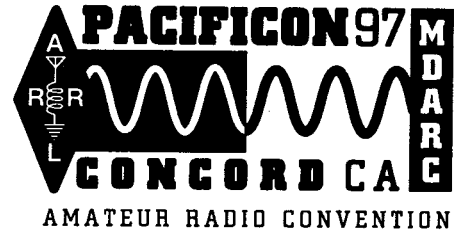




American Radio Relay League

1997 ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION REPORT

August, 1997



DIRECTOR

Brad Wyatt, K6WR
18400 Overlook Road, #5
Los Gatos, CA 95030-5850
(408) 395-2501
Packet: K6WR@NOARY.#NCA.CA.USA
Internet: k6wr@arrrl.org

PACIFICON '97

HOT LINE: (510) 932-6125
WORLD WIDE WEB: www.mdarc.org
email: pacificon@designlink.com

VICE DIRECTOR

Jim Maxwell, W6CF
P.O. Box 473
Redwood Estates, CA 95044
(408) 353-3911
Packet: W6CF@NOARY.#NCA.CA.USA
Internet: w6cf@arrrl.org

Brad Wyatt, K6WR, ARRL Pacific Division Director 1997 Midyear Status Report

This is my fourth Division Newsletter as Director of the Pacific Division, so I would like to outline some of my thoughts for 1997 and beyond and what we accomplished in 1996.

The year 1996 was a momentous and exciting year for the Pacific Division and Amateur Radio. 1997 continues at the same pace, and I expect it to remain that way. I hope that I was able to represent you in the Amateur Radio world as you expected. I will certainly try to live up to your expectations. The end results we obtain will be because of a concerted effort by many people. Please call or write or send messages by whatever means you can to discuss the topics of interest to you.

Many have asked for more information about the role of the Director. I am one of 15 geographically chosen Directors charged with the responsibility of developing national policy for the ARRL, both internally and externally as with Congress and FCC. The Pacific Division consists of California from the Oregon border to the southern boundary of Kern Co.; the entire state of Nevada and the State of Hawaii and the U. S. islands in the Pacific Ocean. One of the aspects of this policy making job is to develop the environment within which the operational parts of the League headed by the elected Section Managers can operate successfully. Some of these areas include: emer-

gency communications, club operations, the effort to maintain order within the amateur bands, public information, traffic, and other activities.

I would like to welcome the new Section Managers who have taken office since this time last year: San Joaquin Valley Section Manager, Don Costello, W7WN; and Nevada Section Manager, Bob Davis, K7IY. Thanks to Billy Smith, Jr., W4HMY, who served so well in Nevada, and Mike Siegel, KI6PR, who served so well in San Joaquin Valley. Thanks also to SCV SM Kit Blanke, WA6PWW; SV SM Jettie Hill, W6RFF; and EB SM Bob Vallio, W6RGG, for continuing on. As this article is being written in mid June, there is an election underway in the San Francisco Section between the incumbent SM Tom Orman, KD6VWD, and the former SM, John Wallack, W6TLK.

Thanks also to all the volunteers at the Division, Section and local levels for a great job in 1996! Keep it up in 1997!

It is a very rare circumstance when an amateur is elected to a Hall of Fame. In 1997, the Pacific Division was honored to have not one but three members elected --- at the Dayton Hamvention, Bob Ferrero, W6RJ, and Bob Vallio, W6RGG, were inducted into the CQ DX Hall of Fame and Carl Cook, AI6V, was inducted into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame all for their contributions and accomplishments in their respective fields. Congratulations, Bob, Bob and Carl!

Comments by Jim Maxwell, W6CF ARRL Pacific Division Vice Director

The time has come for another PACIFICON!

Nothing is better than PACIFICON for renewing old acquaintances and making new ones, or for seeing the face behind the microphone or key you've been working for so long. In addition, a bumper crop of exhibitors has signed up, and the days will be chock-full of interesting presentations to attend in between visits to the exhibit areas and the flea market. PACIFICON is a great place to pick up some bargains or to learn something new about this wonderful avocation of ours.

As in the past, it has been a special pleasure to visit many of the Pacific Division clubs this year. In addition to normal visits, in which we can bring you up-to-date on what's happening in ARRL and amateur radio in general, both Brad and I are available for talks on a variety of other subjects. I have several presentations related to the history of amateur radio and Morse code. Also, don't forget that the new FCC RF exposure regulations are scheduled to kick in on January 1 of next year. If you'd like a rundown on what these new regulations will mean to you, give me a call and I'll be happy to drop by your club, schedule permitting.

Please do visit me at the ARRL booth and say hello at PACIFICON - see you there!

Jim, W6CF

Since January 1994, when I became Director, I have been meeting personally with the District Directors of the FCC Compliance and Information Bureau, Offices in the Pacific Division Area. This effort has been very difficult for them and me during the downsizing and consolidation of the CIB offices nationwide in 1995-97. These are "let's get acquainted and get to know each other" calls to help establish a potential working environment. Operations with these officials is the responsibility of the operational side of the ARRL - the elected Section Managers.

I continue to meet individually with each of my appointed Assistant Directors, Volunteer Counsels, and Volunteer Consulting Engineers in the Division to make certain that we each understand our roles and interests. I plan Cabinet meetings twice a year where they and the Section Managers meet before each semi-annual ARRL Board meeting. At our Cabinet meetings we discuss topics to bring to the ARRL Headquarters Staff, ARRL Board or Board Advisory Committees as your representatives. Of course, I would also like very much to hear from each of you concerning your wishes.

Another continuing part of my efforts is to visit clubs, hamfests, and conventions involving all the interests in Amateur Radio in the Division. These forums are another one of the key methods I use to understand your individual interests and desires. Such visits also show my strong support of local clubs and their activities; I believe that local clubs are the backbone of Amateur Radio. Clearly, these visits are part of an effort to introduce non ARRL members to the League and its many services. The more members we have in the League, the stronger is our voice when dealing with the FCC and other government entities. The ARRL is far more than a subscription to QST - we are the only real voice the amateurs have on a national level!

Legal issues related to amateur operations such as antenna ordinances and CC&Rs are of increasing concern; therefore, another area of focus relates to legal strategies for the Pacific Division. This comprehensive project is under the guidance of Assistant Director and Volunteer Counsel Coordinator, Phil Kane, K2ASP.

We face continuing antenna restriction problems due to the presence of commercial cellular and PCS interests. Phil and the other Volunteer Counsels and many Amateurs are working diligently to help you protect your ability to erect towers and antennas in the face of substantial new restrictions planned by municipalities, counties and other entities.

Here are some other more specific specialized areas which require attention and will continue to require attention in the future:

THE FUTURE OF AMATEUR RADIO.

1994 saw the completion of the Strategic Long Range Plan of ARRL. I believe that this may turn out to be one of the most important activities of the Board in the long term. Details of the plan are to be found in the April 1995 QST. The ARRL continues to implement this plan daily, and you will notice the changes in direction throughout the years in various functional areas. This plan and its implementation will set the direction for Amateur Radio for the next several years.

Without spectrum, there will be no Amateur Radio. The FCC/NTIA/Congress ~~continue to threaten to~~ withdraw Amateur Radio spectrum by auctioning off spectrum to the highest commercial bidder. The major part of this threat comes from the Spectrum Auction programs mandated by Congress to raise billions of dollars for various purposes and the Little LEO satellite folks who want to share our 2 meter, 219-225 MHz and 70 centimeter bands for their commercial purposes. Other commercial entities are interested in sharing our bands up through 24 GHz. So far, we appear to have been successful, in large measure, defending our spectrum allocations, but we must continue to be alert. Special Pacific Division Alert Teams have been established for each threatened band to work with ARRL to develop positions to defend our bands. The key meeting in 1997 is likely to be the World Radio Conference 1997 to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, later this year. There have been and will continue to be many articles in QST, The ARRL Letter and the Pacific Division Update to keep you informed about these spectrum allocation battles.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES.

On June 18, President Clinton signed into law S. 543, "The Volunteer Protection Act of 1997" which should provide Federal protection from "frivolous, arbitrary, or capricious" lawsuits against our OO/AmAux and VE volunteers and other volunteers. The law is known as Public Law 105-19 which becomes effective on Sept. 16, 1997.

PL 105-19 is much broader in scope concerning those who are covered than the Amateur Radio bill (H.R. 1013). To quote the Act itself --

"The purpose of this Act is to promote the interests of social service program beneficiaries and taxpayers and to sustain the availability of programs, nonprofit organizations, and governmental entities that depend on volunteer contributions by reforming the laws to provide certain protections from liability abuses related to volunteers serving nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies".

AMATEUR RADIO SPREAD SPECTRUM PROPOSAL.

The FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Docket 97-12) to liberalize the rules for the Amateur Radio use of Spread Spectrum to enable a much more vigorous experimentation in this technology. There is much discussion in various venues about the merits of the proposal. It is possible that this rule making may ultimately set the trend for technology rules for Amateur Radio for many years to come. Please join the discussion.

ARRL AMATEUR RADIO LICENSING PROPOSAL.

The WRC 99 Committee of the ARRL Board has developed a proposed plan to revise the Amateur Radio licensing program. The plan would change the number of license classes and their scope, change the CW requirement, and other matters. Remember, this is just a proposal, the details of which can be found in many issues of QST and other sources. Again, note that this is just a proposal so far, and even if adopted by the ARRL Board, there is no indication that FCC is even interested. Please join this discussion also.

VANITY (PREFERRED) CALLSIGNS.

In 1994, I was one of 5 Directors to develop the ARRL Comments to the FCC docket 93-305. Gates 1, 1A, and 2 of the program, to retrieve formerly held call-signs, retrieve former club calls, and for Extra class licensees have been opened as of mid year with hopes that subsequent gates will follow.

FCC LACK OF RULES ENFORCEMENT.

In early 1994, the FCC and the ARRL signed a new agreement on the enforcement of the Part 97 Rules. Unfortunately, due to the current downsizing of FCC particularly in the CIB Field Offices throughout the U.S., budget restrictions and other reasons, the FCC has been essentially inactive in enforcing their Rules. Unhappily, we are not alone as all services have suffered from this problem.

To try to remedy this problem, the ARRL Board has tried several different approaches. The latest is a Petition to the FCC to allow the Administrative Law Judge function of FCC to become involved in the enforcement program rather than the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Compliance and Information Bureaus of FCC. The future of this petition is unknown.

The ARRL and the Pacific Division will continue to bring pressure from all sources available to clean up our bands.

Other issues will arise, they always do.

Your entire League organization works very hard to stay ahead of and on top of the issues, but we can always use more help. Please be watchful.

Vice Director Jim Maxwell, W6CF, is a key member of the team. His counsel and advice on all aspects of the Division activities has been extremely valuable. In addition, I have asked him to continue to help me with the conversion to electronic methods of news distribution. We are continuing the monthly Pacific Division Director Update distributed to all club newsletter editors in printed form. We have moved many subscribers to various modes of electronic media including posting on packet bulletin boards throughout the Division and transmission over the Internet.

In early 1996, the Pacific Division Home Page on the World Wide Web came on line thanks to Randy Foutch, KE6HCI, the Pacific Division Webmaster. Randy resigned as Webmaster in mid June. Thanks, Randy, for volunteering to get this project underway!

We now have a new Webmaster, Paul Wesling, KM6LH. He and his team have great plans.

The Pacific Division Home Page linked to the ARRL Home Page and various Section and Club pages has provided a great supplement to the monthly Pacific Division Update as a means of keeping the Pacific Division members informed on all topics of interest in Amateur Radio. QST and the ARRL Letter round out the easily available news sources.

My thanks to all the members of the Mount Diablo ARC and to Greg Estep, KE6VTA, and Sylvia White, KC6YJV, Pacificon '97 co-Chairmen, for running the Pacificon '97 Convention. MDARC has done a magnificent job these last five years as the hosts—it will be very hard to top those years, but I am sure they will!

I look forward to meeting many of you at Pacificon '97 October 17-19 in Concord to discuss these and other issues of interest to you. Please look me up so we can talk!

Welcome, all of you, to Pacificon '97!
73, Brad Wyatt K6WR

Forums and Seminars

PACIFICON '97's Friday Antenna Seminar Program

Ray Gaschk, W6FYA, Elk Antennas, has put together another stellar group of speakers for this years antenna session, from beginners stuff (Ed Farmer, AA6ZM, How Wire Antennas Work) to the state of the art (Rob Hill, Slot Antennas, How They Work and How to Design). Judging from last year's sellout, standing room only attendance, you had better get your ticket early if you don't want to miss this outstanding ham event.

Call Ray at (510) 933-3242 for your reservation. There is a \$10.00 charge for tickets to this outstanding Friday-only antenna seminar. The seminar runs from 8:00 am to just after 5:00pm, with a break for lunch (lunch is not included).

FRIDAY ANTENNA PROGRAM

The leadoff speakers are "Doc" Gmelin, W6ZRJ, with "Evolution of antennas for manufactured housing (mobile homes)", and Al Gaetano, W6VZT, with "Everything you wanted to know about antennas but were afraid to ask".

This is followed by Dr. Roger Gathers, N6GRF, describing an "Eight Band Vertical Antenna without Traps or Loading Coils." Next up is Don Johnson, W6AAQ, with a History of HF Mobile Antennas", then Ed Farmer, AA6ZM, "How HF Wire Antennas Work".

Leading off the afternoon session is Gene Swiech and Bill Smith of Swiech Communications, and their talk on VHF Antennas. Rob Hill, follows with a discussion of state-of-the art "Slot Antennas: How to Design and Make Them", with a practical example. Tom Schiller, N6BT, of Force 12 Antennas will then offer an antenna talk called "No Smoke, Just Mirrors".

The last part of the day, is devoted to your Questions & Answers on antennas.

ANTENNA BUILDERS NOTE: On Saturday from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon, the **50 MHz and Up Club** will measure the gain of your VHF or UHF antenna.

The New FCC RF Exposure Rules

Jan. 1, 1998, is presently scheduled to be the kick-off date for the FCC's new RF exposure regulations. On Friday afternoon of PACIFICON Jim Maxwell, W6CF, will provide some insights into the new regulations - where they came from, what they mean, and what all hams will need to do to comply with the new regulations when they come into effect.

Internet and Ham Radio

Learn how to use the Internet and the World Wide Web. Learn what is available and how it will affect amateur radio. At Pacificon '97 there will be hands-on demonstrations and an opportunity to ask questions about ham use of the Internet, which can provide the ham with "freeware" and "shareware" programs useful to ham radio operators -- and to those interested in becoming a ham radio operator.

APRS

APRS, the Amateur Packet [position] Reporting System, is a fast-growing part of amateur radio. APRS is a packet radio software package that displays the locations of user stations on a map drawn on your computer at home or in your shack. It will also show your location after you enter your coordinates.

If you have a GPS (Global Positioning Satellite) position receiver (an electronic box that can accurately determine your location) you can couple its position output information to the APRS system for automatic position reporting. The GPS receiver "reads down" position information from a network of GPS satellites circling the earth in known, predictable orbits. From this information the GPS receiver calculates your latitude and longitude, with accuracy to a few yards.

At PACIFICON '96, this forum, like many others was a sell-out with standing room only. Barry Winkler, KC6WYA, will tell us about the many virtues of APRS. Locally, the number of users of APRS has steadily grown. The Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC, again, the host of Pacificon) sponsors a wide area digipeater for APRS on 145.01 MHz. The software program has gone through numerous revisions and now includes every feature imaginable. Come and find out if APRS is for you.

YL Forum

Beth Murphy, KD6CDR will show what fun the women in amateur radio are having. What new ideas they are having and what directions they are taking to better amateur radio while having lots of excitement.

Northern California Packet Association:

The Northern California Packet Association (NCPA) will again participate in PACIFICON '97. The NCPA is the digital band planner in the region and is concerned with the implementation of packet radio into a coordinated system which maximizes its usefulness.

This year their table will be in the Hertz room, where APRS (Amateur Packet Reporting System) and ATV (Amateur TV) have been in the past. Aside from the usual information and hand-outs, they plan to have a demonstration of remote control and sensing using packet, also a keyboard to keyboard and/or BBS demonstration.

The NCPA will again sponsor the popular "Packet Q & A" session. Unlike most of the sessions (which are presentations) this is a discussion and a time for answering your questions about packet. As of this writing, so far the panel includes amateurs active in packet satellites and the BBS network.

QRP and Kit Building

Before the days of the large commercial manufacturers of ham radios, we all built our own. We operated QRP (low power). Now you have the chance to relive the thrills of yesteryear. Doug Hendricks, KI6DS, will present a program on QRP and kit building. He will demonstrate his NORCAL40 transceiver and show you how you can enjoy this part of the hobby.

Emergency Program

Ed Ritchie, K6SFD, will be presenting a description of the Incident Command System (ICS), which is a response system activated during natural and man-made disasters, under the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). SEMS is a structure of emergency procedures used almost universally by cities and counties to cope with disasters that can affect many communities simultaneously. It is under these systems that amateur radio operators assist in emergency communications.

Ed's talk will discuss ICS, SEMS and Ham Radio, the ready kit, activation of the Ham community. The talk will provide a demonstration of the ICS System in operation, and there will be some hands on practice and exposure for participants

National Weather Service Weather Spotter Program

The National Weather Service Office in Monterey California operates a network of volunteer weather spotters to better record weather and assist in development of weather models for more accurate predictions.

Members of the Monterey staff will present one forum each day of Pacificon to describe the program to radio amateurs who might be interested in participating.

Spread Spectrum

Much of the future of Packet Radio lies in the Spread-Spectrum mode. Here's a mode that can provide data rates greater than your modem or ISDN line, while sharing frequencies effectively with other users and even other services.

This talk, by Bruce Perens, K6BP, will give a technical overview of spread spectrum, frequency hopping, direct sequencing, channel sharing, multipath communication, processing gain, and will also discuss recent FCC regulatory action on spread spectrum, TAPR activities, other amateur spread spectrum developers, sources of spread spectrum equipment for Amateur Radio, and commercial spread spectrum equipment. Perens will also discuss those bands with commercial and amateur spread-spectrum sharing frequencies.

No Code!

License Restructuring!

This Sunday morning talk, by Bruce Perens, K6BP (Marconi Room) addresses why it's important for Amateur Radio's future to replace the CW exam with something else, and what to replace it with. How to solve the "memorization problem" with current Amateur exams, improve the quality of the Amateur service, and keep lids off the air without the CW test.

Bruce then moves to the Morse Room where he presents the ARRL plan for license restructuring, and an alternative plan. The ARRL Forum is in the same room immediately afterward. Bruce's talks promise to be very interesting to all hams on both sides of these issues.

Satellites and the Amateur

Ever think about joining the thousands of hams who enjoy the growing world of satellite communications everyday? Well, think again, and plan on attending PACIFICON '97 to learn that satellite communications can be easy and inexpensive to add to your shack. The technical sessions for PACIFICON '97 will highlight practical satellite communications.

A special events station at PACIFICON '97 will allow PACIFICON '97 attendees to interact first hand with satellite tracking software and an operational satellite station involved in real satellite QSOs! The fantastic new Phase 3-D satellite may be in orbit by PACIFICON '97.

So, now is the time to learn about satellite communications. Another great reason to attend PACIFICON '97.

Other Convention Activities

PACIFICON BANQUET:

Always a sellout!

The Saturday night PACIFICON '97 gourmet buffet dinner will feature Steve Roberts, N4RVE, to tell of the bicycle BEHEMOTH and the Microship.

From 1983 to 1991, high-tech nomad Steven K. Roberts pedaled 17,000 miles around the United States on a computerized recumbent bicycle that was equipped with a fully computerized ham shack. Steve has now retired the \$1.2 million BEHEMOTH and is designing and building a pair of pedal/solar /sail micro-trimars known as Microships.

After PACIFICON'97 the bicycle goes on loan to the Tech Museum of Innovation in San Jose and the ships, upon completion, will go as far as the imagination can conceive.

Steve, prior to becoming a tech nomad, operated a consulting engineering business in the midwest. He has published three books on microprocessor-based industrial control design. His technomadic machines represent the creative contributions of industry sponsors and hundreds of volunteers. His once-radical notion of "nomadic connectivity" has become a fast growing trend.

PACIFICON '97's annual banquet will have a different look this year! It features an outstanding gourmet buffet dinner.

Don't miss Steve's presentation at the Saturday night banquet and the outstanding

banquet fare, and don't miss his detailed presentations at the technical forums..

The Royal Order of the Wouff-Hong

Wouff-Hong History

Years ago, a guardian of amateur radio operating practices regularly appeared as a writer in *QST*, the monthly ARRL news magazine. Known benevolently as "the Old Man", he signed his articles that addressed his favorite subject as T.O.M. The tradition of his admonishments to be good operators has lasted and grown through the years.

PACIFICON '97 is one of the few occasions when there is an opportunity for licensed hams, who are members of the ARRL and who hold a current amateur radio operator's license, to join this secret society, The Royal Order of the Wouff-Hong, and learn its contribution to ham radio. You can join ARRL at the PACIFICON '97 convention.

The Midnight Wouff-Hong Ceremony

The mystic and secret ceremony will be held at midnight on Saturday, October 19. Sign up at the convention and become a member. You will learn the secret handshake, receive the secret password, and receive a certificate of membership (suitable for framing) (for a modest fee of \$1.00 to defray the cost of printing and mailing)!

Saturday and Sunday Swap Meet

The popular PACIFICON Amateur Electronics Swap meet will be held both Saturday And Sunday mornings in the shopping center across from the Concord Hilton. Year after year sellers (many fellow hams) have found hams ready to purchase and carry away that special item that was to be found no place else.

Hours are from 6 AM to 11 AM on Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free to buyers, still only \$10.00 for sellers for a double wide space. One fee is good for both days. Spaces are sure to go fast and will be available on a first come, first served basis with no reservations ahead of time.

Look through your shack and garage -- someone wants the gear you no longer use. Breakfast will be available with a

menu of special baked goods as well as hot dogs, donuts, soft drinks and coffee.

Transmitter Hunting

This year the popular Transmitter-Hunt contest will be conducted by Rich Harrington, KN6FW, a well known local Hunt Meister.

This year, there will be two hunts. The first will encompass an area within a half mile of the hotel. It will be an easy hunt. Beginners, as well as experienced hunters, will find this to be a fun event. The second hidden transmitter will also be within walking distance. It may be a bit more difficult to find. Hunters will meet pool-side at the Hilton at 8:00 AM Sunday morning. Instructions will be available for beginners.

A simple attenuator can be made for your handheld with a mailing tube and aluminum foil. We'll show you how. There will be certificates for the winners in all classes of hunts.

Join in the fun!

ARRL Walk-in VE Test Sessions

Those new to amateur radio, and amateurs who wish to upgrade to a higher grade of license, can walk-in to one of the ARRL VE Test Sessions. Examinations for Novice class through Extra Class licenses are given each day of Pacificon '97.

Friday night:	6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 AM to 12 Noon
Sunday	9:00 AM to 12 Noon

Exam retakes are available Sunday morning, if needed.

You will need one photo ID and one other form of ID. If currently licensed, bring originals and a copy of your FCC Amateur Radio license. Also bring the original and copy of any CSCE. The examination fee is \$6.25

Foot and Fanny

The concept of the Foot and Fanny, first inaugurated many years ago, will again be kept alive at PACIFICON '97. What is it all about? You will have the opportunity to send Morse code using a telegraph key that is about 20 times the normal size. And you can send using your foot or ... well, you get the idea. Certificates will be awarded for those who

can send simple words like "Mississippi" and "Tennessee". Here is your chance to show off your real keying ability and have your efforts photographed for posterity.

MORE EXHIBITORS

More exhibit space

The PACIFICON '97 exhibit area has been expanded again this year with the opening of the Hertz Room, in addition to the Exhibit Hall, for additional vendor displays.

More Exhibit Hall space means more Amateur Radio businesses can participate at Pacificon'97. There will be many opportunities for special convention prices on a variety of Ham related items.

Exhibit Hours

The Exhibit Hall and the Hertz Exhibit Area will open:

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

In addition, many vendors will be located in the Hotel hallways throughout the convention, and some of these will be open Friday evening.

Don't miss this opportunity to see all the "gear" in one location. Plan to spend some time strolling around the convention and looking at all the new amateur radio equipment and services now available.

More Exhibitors

Previous and current exhibitors have included:

AA6EE Callbooks	Mount Diablo
Alinco Electronics	Anateur Radio
Amateur Radio	Club
School	NG/Comet Antenna
AMSAT	Northern California
ARRL	Packet Ass'n
ARRL Incoming DX	Palomar Engineers
QSL Bureau	QR ZED Engraving
Battery Tech	Radio Shack
Books, etc.	Ramsey
Cable Experts	Electronics, Inc.
Computer Nut	RF Parts/
CQ Communications	Diamond Antenna
Cynthia Wall,	Smiley Antenna Co.
KA71TT	Solder-It Co
E. H. Yost & Co.	Standard Radio
Force - 12/	Starfire Tech
Buy USA, Inc.	Startek
Ham Radio Outlet	International, Inc.
Hats For Hams	Swiech
ICOM America, Inc.	Communications
JPS	Systems
Communications	The Radio Place
Kenwood USA Corp.	The Wireman
Larson Electronics	Tower Tech.
Link	Worldradio
Communications	Yaesu USA
Microvideo Products	

Top Ten Reasons for Attending Pacificon '97

10. It's a chance to get away and have eye-ball QSOs with lots of friends.
9. You might win a door prize.
8. You might find what you need at the swap meet.
7. An outstanding gourmet buffet to kill your diet.
6. A chance to learn and use the secret Wouff-Hong handshake.
5. It is a great time to try out your hidden transmitter equipment.
4. The exhibitors will have the latest equipment for sale at the best prices all year.
3. The forums have speakers on a wide range of subjects and you're sure to learn something new.
2. The antenna program will help you to get your station operating at its best.
1. The banquet with its speaker is the social event of the year in ham circles.

PACIFICON '97 WILL BE HELD AT THE CONCORD HILTON OCTOBER 17-19, 1997.

Once again, the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC) will sponsor the ARRL Pacific Division convention. For many years running, PACIFICON has entertained, educated and enthralled people interested in Amateur Radio. Chances are that if you are interested in an aspect of Ham Radio, you will find it demonstrated, talked about, or sold during PACIFICON '97.

Proceeds from PACIFICON '97 will be used to continue to support many worthy

programs. The Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC) has provided scholarships to licensed amateurs (or those awaiting their license) who are either residents of Contra Costa County or members of MDARC.

Other programs funded by PACIFICON '97 include donating radio related publications to high school and public libraries. Support is offered to radio clubs in schools and other worthy causes. Your support of PACIFICON '97 ensures that

these and other worthy programs will be continued. For more information contact:

PACIFICON '97
P.O. BOX 272613
Concord, CA 94527
(510) 932-6125
www.mdarc.org
email: pacificon@designlink.com

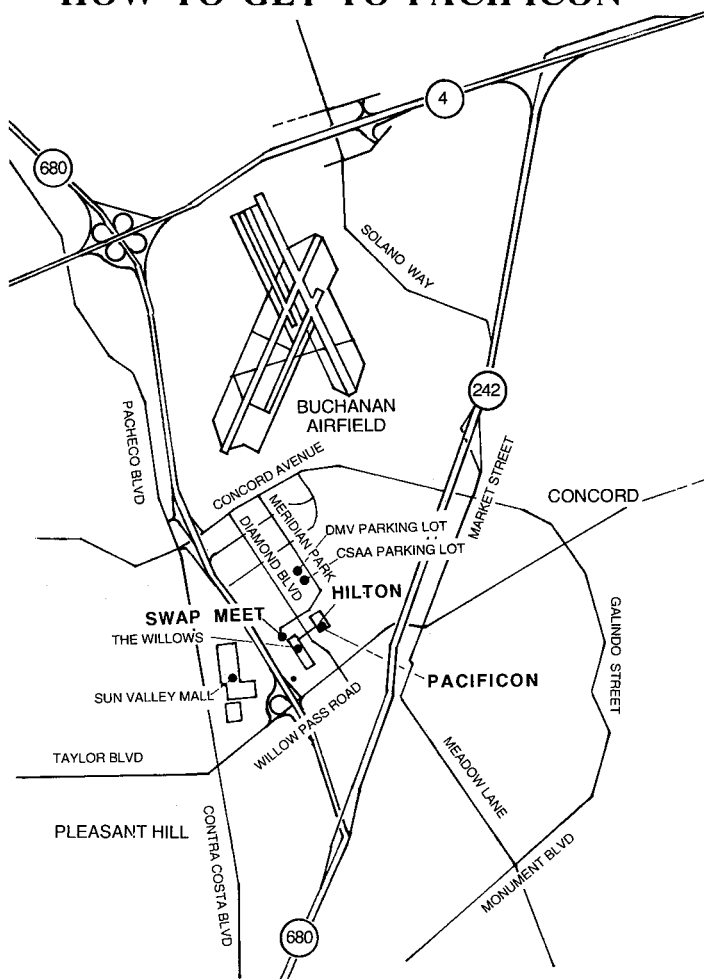
Sponsored by the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC)

Location and Accommodations

The Concord Hilton is a luxury hotel located in Concord, 27 miles east of San Francisco. Accommodations include:

- Fitness Center
- Swimming Pool and Hot Tub
- First class in-hotel restaurant
- Walking distance to major area shopping centers
- Hotel guests get free transportation to Sun Valley Mall, Bay Area Rapid Transit (an easy way to San Francisco and Oakland) and Concord's Buchanan Airport
- Live and video taped PACIFICON action on the hotel's cable TV

The Hilton is offering convention attendees and exhibitors a special PACIFICON '97 room rate of only \$80 for each night (single/double). You must mention PACIFICON '97 when reserving your accommodations at the hotel to get this special rate. To make reservations, contact the Hilton at 1-800-826-2644. Get your reservations in early. Special rate rooms are likely to sell out early June. Sorry, no overnight RV parking allowed in hotel parking lot.

HOW TO GET TO PACIFICON
ADVANCE REGISTRATION FORM
PACIFICON '97, P.O. Box 272613
Concord, CA 94527

Advance Registration Deadline: October 13, 1997

Enclose check or money order for amount indicated. No cash please! Pick-up your tickets at the Registration Desk in the hotel lobby on your arrival. Enclose SASE if you want tickets returned by mail. To obtain the **PACIFICON '97 hotel rate of \$80 per room (single/double)** call the hotel directly:

CONCORD HILTON HOTEL 1 (800) 826-2644

Please type or print your name and address

Name: _____ Call: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

How many?

Admission: _____ @ \$3.00 = \$ _____
(valid all three days)

Gourmet Buffet _____ @ \$32.00 = \$ _____

Antenna Seminar * _____ @ \$10.00 = \$ _____
(Friday only)

TOTAL = \$ _____

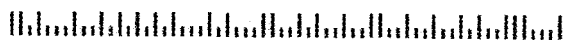
BRAD WYATT, K6WR
Director, ARRL Pacific Division
American Radio Relay League
225 Main Street
Newington, CT 06111 USA

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JOSEPH T GREGORY WA6DQN
3244 Terra Granada Dr Apt 2B
Walnut Creek CA 94595-3548

